

Joe Riggs incident January 31, 2019 testimonials

My [Person C] account of that evening is as follows:

We were sitting at the bar at the Triangle, Thursday night, Jan. 31, and having a conversation. [Person A – AMHTA staff and recipient of unwanted advances] was sitting on the other side of [Person B – colleague of person A & C], with no one else beside her. Joe Riggs approached us and sat down with his drink next to [Person A] and didn't introduce himself before he began talking to her. I don't remember what he said but I do remember feeling uncomfortable with the situation because he was being a little overly friendly. [Person A] turned around to see who it was and when she realized it was Mr. Riggs, she introduced him to us. I could not hear all the conversation because I was on the other side of [Person B], but just a few minutes into his conversation with us he [Riggs] reached over and brushed his hand over [Person A's] cheek, making a reference to her being some sort of animal (I think it was related to a discussion of her personality traits). Much of the time was spent with him speaking enthusiastically about his role as a trustee and how his experience as a parent of a child with a disability will put him in a position to influence fellow trustees and to be a good ally.

Although he mostly talked about work and politics, he still found excuses to keep putting his hands on [Person A's] back and shoulder. It was clear he was under the influence, but didn't slur his speech or seem to lack control of his words. I was getting fed up with listening to him and [Person A] was clearly under pressure to remain friendly so I nudged [Person B] to leave and said to everyone I was tired and we had meetings the next day so we have to leave. [Person B] and I stood up to say goodbye to Mr. Riggs and motioned to [Person A] to leave with us. When [Person A] got up as well, Riggs seemed disappointed and acted surprised that she wasn't staying with him. We chimed in and said, "No, she's leaving too," to which he responded "You're not gonna stay?! You mean I can't I corrupt you and convince you to stay with me?" Or something to that effect. At that point it had gone too far so we didn't really allow him much opportunity to engage us or [Person A] further, and we left.

The whole interaction felt inappropriate and kind of sleazy. It was obvious that had he [Riggs] not been in the position he was in as a trustee, especially a governor appointed one, we would have brushed him off much sooner or pointed out his overstepping boundaries.

Account of [Person A – AMHTA staff and recipient of unwanted advances]

This letter documents an incident that occurred in Juneau, Alaska the evening of January 31, 2019 following the Trust Full Board meeting and relates to newly appointed Trustee Joe Riggs and myself, [Person A].

The incident occurred at the Triangle Club and was witnessed by two non-Trust affiliated colleagues, [Person C] and [Person B].

As I was sitting at the bar with my two above mentioned colleagues, I was approached by Joe Riggs who sat down to my immediate right. I introduced Mr. Riggs to my colleagues and we began talking about his recent introduction to Trust related work. Mr. Riggs offered his business card to me and my colleagues. Several minutes into the conversation Mr. Riggs reached towards me [Person A] and touched my neck and cheek lightly with the back of his fingers. Soon thereafter my colleagues and I stood up to leave, at which point Mr. Riggs insisted to my colleagues that I should stay. Mr. Riggs made comments to my colleagues related to "corrupting" me as we were leaving the building.

I have had no further contact with Mr. Riggs.

[Person C] and [Person B] are available to discuss the incident and respond to questions, as am I.

NOTE: [Person B's] testimony has been written, but was not available at the time of this document's creation. It can be provided upon request to further corroborate the above testimonials.